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DESCRIPTION OF A NEW GENUS AND TWO NEW SPECIES OF SOUTH AMERICAN DIPLOPODA OF THE FAMILY POLYDESMIDÆ

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Continuing the study of South American myriopods in the large collections of The American Museum of Natural History, I have found a new and striking genus of the family Polydesmidae, subfamily Strongyli-somini,¹ which I describe herewith.

ONCIUROSOMA, new genus

Figures 1 and 2

Corpus segmentorum numero et pororum numero et distributione normale, subcylindraceum, antice paullum postice parum attenuatum.

Caput detectum sulco postico mediano sat profundo; antennæ articulis 2-6 longitudine inter sese parum diversis, articulo sexto quam præcedens aliquantum crassiore sensillis bene evolutis ut Fig. 1 b et 2 a-b demonstrant.

Collum quam caput (cum mandibulis) parum angustius, convexum.

Trunci metazonæ a quarta supra sulco transverso submediano profundo et sulco longitudinali mediano postico et setis paucis transverse biseriatis instructæ, carinis lateralibus minimis, segmentorum porigerorum vix majoribus (sed segmentorum 17ⁱ et 18ⁱ vel tantum 18ⁱ subnullis), lateribus longitudinaliter profunde sulcatæ, limbo adiecto (Fig. 1 f) brevi, laminari, margine postico irregulariter laciniato.

Segmentum ultimum cauda angustata sed postice truncata, angulis posticis unci instar retrorsum et deorsum aliquantum productis et sensillis 4 consuetis medianis instructa.

Sterna latiuscula ad pedum basim inermia vel non, sulco mediano affecta.

Pedes articulo tertio inter ceteris longiore prætarso unguiformi simplici.

Mas.—Sternum inter pedum par quartum aliquantum productum, pedum paris decimi articuli tertio quam ceterorum plus minusve crassiore.

Organum copulativum articulo secundo longo, subrecto, pseudoflagello bene evolutum.

TYPE.—*O. neotropicum*, new species.

Onciurosoma neotropicum, new species

Figure 1

♀.—Corpus rufo-badium ventre et pedum articulis 1-3 terreis, lævigatum, nitidum.

¹I am at present very conservative in classification and do not like to follow those specialists who, in my opinion, have tended to erect families for groups which can be considered very well as subfamilies, tribes, or less.

Metazonæ carinis lateralibus angulo postico exciso haud producto, sulco inter præ- et metazonam lævigato, carinis segmenti 18ⁱ subnullis.

Sterna inermia. Pedes sat tenues, setis numerosis ut *j-k*, Fig. 1, demonstrant instructis.

Segmenti ultimi caudæ unci laterales acuti deorsum et extrorsum parum vergentes; lamina subanalis postice aliquantum rotundata, valvulæ anales marginatæ, setis 2+2 eisdem valvulæ subanali similibus.

Long. corporis ad mm. 18. lat. metazonæ segmenti decimi 1.90, long. antenarum 3.20, pedum paris decimi 2.40.

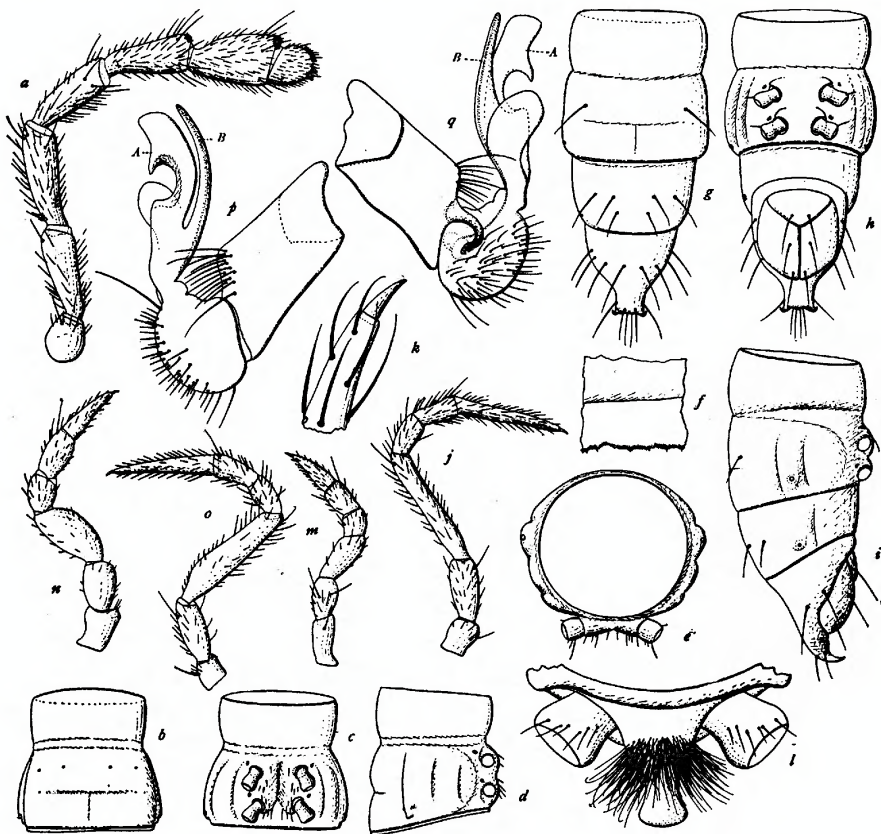


Fig. 1. *Onciuerosoma neotropicum*: *a*, antenna; *b-e*, ninth segment of the trunk viewed dorsally, ventrally, laterally, and posteriorly; *f*, a posterior dorsal fragment of the above much magnified; *g-i*, posterior part of the body viewed dorsally, ventrally, and laterally; *j*, a leg of the ninth segment; *k*, distal part of the same much magnified; *l*, the fourth sternum viewed anteriorly; *m-o*, leg of the first, second, and tenth pair of the male; *p-q*, one of the two parts of the copulatory organ viewed from the internal and external aspects (*A*, hasta; *B*, pseudoflagellum).

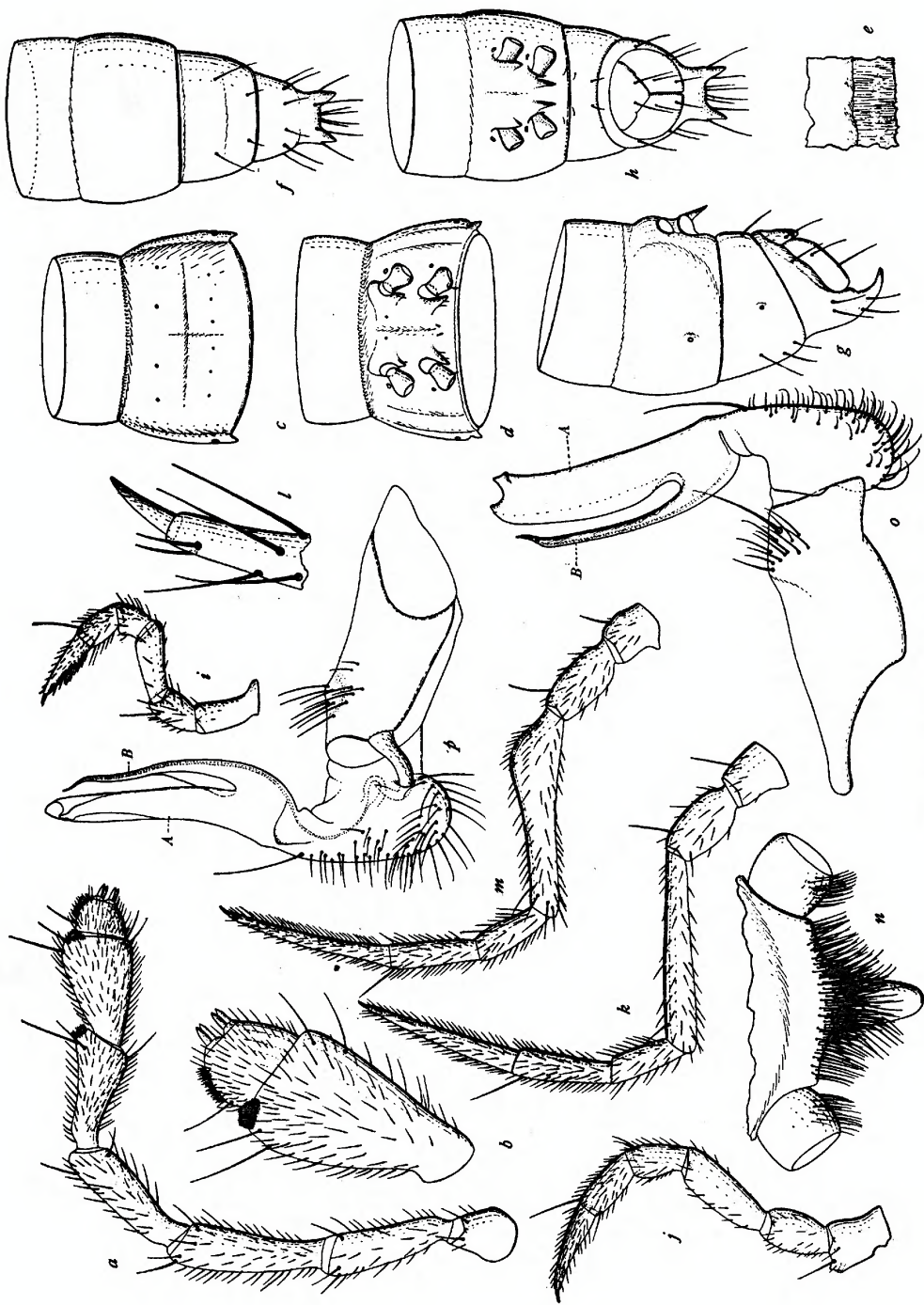


Fig. 2.—Description on p. 4.

♂.—Processus sternalis inter pedum par quartum longulus spathuliformis, pedum articuli primi apicis libellam superans et parte basali persetosus.

Pedes paris decimi articulo tertio parte proximali quam distalis parum crassiore ut Fig. 1 o demonstrat.

Organi copulativi (Fig. 1 p-q) hasta apice laminari aliquantum dilatato et parum longe ab apice profunde excisa ita ut margo præapicalis anticus subuncinatus apparent pseudoflagello attenuato hastæ apicem attingente, hastæ processu laminare sub-mediano interno latiusculo margine convexo integro.

LOCALITY.—I have examined specimens collected near Vegas Falls on Mt. Duida, Venezuela (near the summit, altitude 4700 ft.), by the Tyler-Duida Expedition of The American Museum of Natural History in 1929.

TYPE.—Cat. No. A. M. N. H. 6627.

Onciurosoma acisternum, new species

Figure 2

♂.—Corpus testaceum ventre pedibusque terreis, levigatum, nitidum.

Metazonarum carinæ laterales perparvæ sed a segmento quarto ad 15^{um} angulo postico acuto breviter libero, carinis segmentorum 17ⁱ et 18ⁱ subnullis, sulco inter præ-et metazonam crenulato, metazonarum dorsum sulco mediano longitudinali obsoleto vix distinguendo ante sulcum transversalem etiam instructum.

Sternum inter pedum par quartum in processum longulum productum, gradatim angustius, apice rotundato, maxima pro parte (apice excluso) setis numerosis instructum, pedum articuli primi libellam superans; sterna a segmento septimo ad basim pedum in processum acutum, breviorum ad pedum par anticum, parum longiorum ad pedum par posticum, producta. Pedes sat tenues setosi, articulo tertio inter ceteros longiore, prætarso unguiformi simplici. Pedes paris decimi articulo tertio parte basali infra aliquantum inflata convexa.

Segmentum ultimum angulis posticis in processibus longiusculis acutis retrorsum et deorsum vergentibus productis; lamina subanalis postice triangularis.

Organi copulativi hasta apice laminari dilatato ut o-p, Fig. 2, demonstrant incisa, pseudoflagello hastæ apicem subattingente.

Long. corporis mm. 16, lat. metazonæ segmenti decimi 1.70, long. antennarum 3.00 pedum paris decimi 2.90.

LOCALITY.—Mouth of Meamu River, British Guiana; collected by Herbert Lang and W. J. La Varre.

TYPE.—Cat. No. A. M. N. H. 6626.

OBSERVATION.—This species shows very distinct differences from the preceding in the produced posterior angles of the carinæ, in the sterna being produced near the base of the legs in the form of a spine, and in the form of the reproductive organs.

Fig. 2. *Onciurosoma acisternum*, male: a, antenna; b, distal part of the same more greatly magnified; c-d, ninth segment viewed dorsally and ventrally; e, posterior dorsal fragment of the same much magnified; f-h, posterior part of the body viewed dorsally, laterally, and ventrally; i-k, a leg of the first, second, and ninth pair; l, distal part of a leg of the ninth pair more greatly magnified; m, a leg of the tenth pair; n, sternal portion between the fourth pair of legs viewed anteriorly; o-q, one of the two parts of the copulatory organ viewed from external and internal face (the pseudoflagellum, B, somewhat removed from the hasta, A).